

Town of Stratton Board of Trustees Meeting
918 Colorado Ave.
February 13, 2020

Town of Stratton Board of Trustees meeting was held on February 13, 2020 at the Stratton Activity Center. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor, Richard Mann. The Pledge of Allegiance followed. In attendance Trustees: Matt Brachtenbach, Keenan Huppert, Sonia Huppert, Arlan Tanner and Dallas Vaughn, Mayor: Richard Mann. No trustees were absent.

Town Employees present were: Town Clerk Melanee Johnson, Maintenance Staff Wayne Herrick & Lonnie Spurlin, Library Staff Janice Salmans, Sherry Monroe & Margie Borden. Attorney Stan Kimble was also present.

Guests present: Theo Borden, Gary Pautler & Tim Pautler.

BUILDING PERMITS

There were no Building Permits

EMPLOYEE REPORTS

Melanee Johnson reported there were no water shut offs this month and that we are using the alert system as a reminder the day before shut off scheduled. It worked very well this month! There are 2 more election trainings that Melanee will attend, although our election needs to be cancelled. Melanee met with KC Electric and Daymond Dietrich (HLS, Inc.) about the street light installation at Healthy Living Housing. The Town will not pay for it, but KC will bill the Town for the installation and we will bill HLS, Inc. The Board requested we get this in writing. Melanee will get this done ASAP. Healthy Living has asked permission to get a private dumpster for a special clean-up of one of their rentals. The Board has no objection, as this is a special circumstance. Melanee will also let Daymond know that is ok. Triple H contacted the Town, as they had heard that we are no longer going to use their services. Melanee told them that we have had no discussions about that and it was nothing but a rumor. Triple H asked if we had issues with their services and Melanee told them that we are satisfied with their services. It has been recommended by CML that the Town set up a Board retreat for the continuing members, the new members coming on and the Town Clerk. This will be to go over projects, plans, answer any questions and strategize for the upcoming changes. Melanee asked if the Board has a preference in having it in Burlington or to set something up out of town, as it is a retreat and not a meeting. There were no decisions at this time. Melanee is continuing to seek out auditors available for our Audit. A request was also sent to Winfrey and County regarding their determining to no longer do Municipal Audits. Melanee contacted Staci Brachtenbach, Pool Manager, about her attending our next meeting to discuss the upcoming year and she will plan to be at the February 27 meeting. Melanee brought up a spring clean-up and asked the Board for their support and assistance to get things cleaned up. We will discuss this further in the meeting. Melanee reported that she contacted several cell phone companies, Verizon was the best priced, if we reduce the number of phones to just 3. Melanee also met with Wayne & Lonnie regarding use, options and their recommendations. We will determine later in this meeting which plan to go with. Melanee also reported that she contacted Chris Huppert, owner of Huppert construction. She told them that we were approved to go ahead with their Bid for the storm repairs, and asked him if they could make the SCB and pool the first priorities, and he said that they would and he will contact us to get access to those buildings as soon as they can get them into their schedule. We received a check today from CIRSA for additional charges at the Sewer Pond for the repairs that has been done there by

Jim's Refrigeration. Four more invoices have been sent to CIRSA for repairs that our Maintenance staff did immediately after the July storm. Melanee reported that she has had a couple telephone conferences with Greg Etl, at DOLA regarding the grant for a Town Manager. Greg strongly suggested that we do not advertise until the grant application was approved, unless we are not in need of the funding assistance. He also has sites that they will recommend we advertise on, once we are at that stage. Melanee and Richard have set up a date to go over and work on the grant. Greg also asked that the job description is sent to him for review. Melanee has the link to download the grant and the required documents. This should all be submitted by mid-March, as it closes the end of March. Wayne Herrick reported that he attended training in Denver on Tuesday for the water system and training in Yuma on Wednesday for weeds & spraying. There was a sewer issue at a residence this past week, which he and Lonnie both were there when the repairs were being worked on. Lonnie Spurlin had nothing more to report on. Janice Salmans reported that the Annual Library report has been completed and submitted. Story time continues to get about 9 children weekly. The printer at the Library needs replaced and Melanee Johnson reported that another one is here and Kati will install it next week.

CONSENT AGENDA AND BILLS PAYABLE

Dallas Vaughn made a motion, seconded by Arlan Tanner, to approve the Consent Agenda containing minutes from the January 23, 2020 meeting, bills payable and financial reports from January 22, 2020 thru February 11, 2020 and the Employee reports. All approved, motion passed.

GUEST COMMENTS

None

OLD BUSINESS

SCB Sale to Seniors:

The sale contract with the Stratton Senior Citizens has been signed and sent to our Attorney, Stan Kimble. Stan stated he will do the necessary documents and title work for the closing. We should be able to set the closing for approximately 30-45 days. He will let the Clerk know when the documents are done and a date has been set. Guest, Theo Borden left the meeting after this discussion.

Auditor:

As Town Clerk, Melanee Johnson reported, we are still searching for an Auditor and Melanee will keep the Board informed of any new information.

Cell phone use:

As reported by Town Clerk, Melanee Johnson, Verizon was the most cost effective plan for the Town, if we reduce the number of phones to 3, one for the Town Manager, one each for the Maintenance staff. The actual town cell phone will need to be replaced, but we have one that can be utilized, as it is never been used. A motion was made by Sonia Huppert and seconded by Dallas Vaughn to continue with Verizon for cell phone service, with only 3 phone lines. All approved, motion passed. The Town Clerk will take the main cell phone until the Manager is hired.

Pautler Well:

This topic was tabled until the Pautler Brothers arrival.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion on restructuring and appointing Board:

Ordinance 10-A

Melanee Johnson and Stan Kimble brought up the Ordinance and statute regarding restructuring the Board from 6 to 4 members and this process would require an election. There was a lengthy discussion regarding appointing Board members, as we did not have enough to fill open positions return petitions. Stan Kimble stated that there are no set statutes on appointing Board members, other than the one that regulate electing Board members. Richard Mann reported that in the past, the Board has appointed Board members, as long as they have been citizens of the Town for at least 60 days. There were no changes suggested or decisions made on making any changes at this time.

Cancelling the Election:

Resolution 2020-03

Melanee Johnson presented to the board that we only had 2 petitions returned for 4 open Trustee seats on the Board and none for the Mayor position. We will need to cancel the election and plan to appoint members. There was also a discussion with Attorney, Stan Kimble, with regard to appointing a Mayor. A motion was made by Arlan Tanner and seconded by Keenan Huppert to cancel the April 7, 2020 election and declare the election of candidates. All approved, motion passed.

A 10 minute break was held, while waiting for the arrival of the Pautler Brothers.

OLD BUSINESS:

Pautler Well:

Tim and Gary Pautler arrived and we opened Old Business again to discuss the well lease. Tim Pautler made a presentation on the history and back ground information on the well. There were several questions asked by the Board as well. Pautler Brothers presented a counter offer to the proposed lease we submitted to them. They would like a decision by March 1, 2020. Tim & Gary Pautler then left the meeting. A very lengthy discussion was held regarding the well lease. At the conclusion of that discussion, a motion was made by Matt Brachtenbach and seconded by Arlan Tanner to offer the Pautler Brothers the lease previously presented, with the following rate changes and no flat fees:

\$42.50/ acre foot pumped; and

\$45/acre foot pumped if over 254 acre foot per year

This will continue as a 3 year lease

Brachtenbach-yes, K Huppert-yes, S Huppert-yes, Tanner-yes, Vaughn-yes. All approve, motion passed. The contract will be revised, sent to Attorney, Stan Kimble and the Board for approval, before Mayor Richard Mann presents the new contract to the Pautler Brothers.

Additional Items:

The spring clean-up issue was discussed again and a list of items to dispose of will be presented to the Board by the next meeting from the office staff as well as the maintenance staff.

A discussion on auctioning off the Humvee was next. A motion was made by Arlan Tanner and seconded by Dallas Vaughn to authorize Arlan Tanner to list the Humvee and trailer on Craig's list for \$20,000 with negotiating authority to a lower price, not lower than \$10,000. All approved, motion passed.

We will have a work session on February 27, 202 at 6:00 pm.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Sonia Huppert made a motion, seconded by Dallas Vaughn, to adjourn the meeting at 9:56 pm. All approved, motion passed.

Richard Mann (Mayor)

Melanee Johnson (Town Clerk)